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for Amusement
hall

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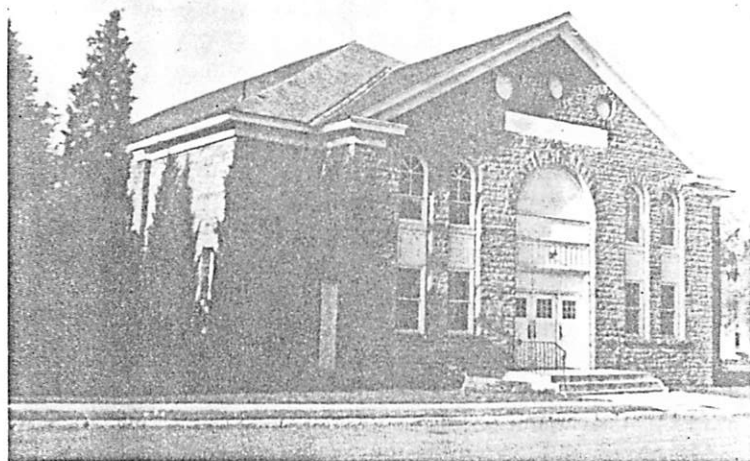


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Brother Tom Blackley served as doorkeeper in the early days of the Third Ward and he took his assignment seriously. If a member was one minute late, he wasn't admitted until whatever was transpiring was finished. Then Brother Blackley opened the door and escorted the tardy church-goer to his seat. Noah Giles was also a doorkeeper for many years.

As there was no large recreation facility in the old Central School, the Third Warders were happy to unite with the other two Heber wards in the cooperative construction of the Heber Amusement Hall. The Amusement Hall or Heber Social Hall, as it was sometimes called, was finished in 1906-07. It was located at First North and First West. It was made of red sandstone with a huge maple dance floor covering more than 400 coil springs. Most of the construction work was performed by volunteer laborers. Later, an annex room was built adjoining the main hall to accommodate smaller parties and banquets. Heber Third Ward Relief Society sisters took their turn in supervising and preparing food for the ward or stake functions. The wards held banquets, parties, dances and reunions there for many years until more modern and functional buildings were erected in the 1950's and 1960's.



Heber Amusement Hall, built in 1906-07 by the three Heber Wards, located at First North and First West. Today it is known as the Senior Citizen's Center. The Daughter's of Utah Pioneers house their artifacts in the upper story in the northern end of the building.

pl 3rd Ward Bk

Venola Cowley remembers that one time the Third Ward Relief Society met in the unfinished parlor of her parent's home at 509 South 100 East. Some of the school benches were brought to the home for this brief Relief Society occupancy.

Religion classes sponsored by the Latter-day Saint Church were held in the school with each age group being taught in its individual room by the school teacher on Wednesday from 3:30 to 4 o'clock. Courses of instruction were provided by the Church in the form of inspirational lessons in booklet form. Attendance at Religion Class was not compulsory. If a child didn't wish to remain, he could go home.

John Ohlwiler was custodian of the Central School even though he was severely crippled. He kept the building in top shape for both school and church use. He swept, dusted, oiled the wooden floors and stairs, arose at 4:30 each morning to start the fire in the coal furnace and shoveled snow from the walks in winter. He even had the unpleasant task of emptying the big tubs of refuse from the outdoor privies. Periodically in the night he would load the tubs on a wagon to transport them to a location unknown to his family or the school children. He then washed the containers before returning them to the separate girls' and boys' toilets. There were no plumbing facilities in the school, no piped-in water, no electricity. The children in school used a dipper to obtain a drink of water from a bucket on a stand. That which they did not drink, they poured into a second bucket. Everyone drank from the same dipper.

Brother and Sister Ohlwiler were also responsible for washing and pressing the sacrament table linens, for washing the water goblets or tiny glass sacrament cups and for providing the sacrament bread for the Third Ward meetings.

In Bishop Crook's journal he lists the names of the men who took their wagons and teams to Silver Creek to bring back loads of coal for the ward's share of fuel for the Central School. The following is an example.

January 15, 1904	Names	Weight	Price
	Noah Giles	3500	\$6.10
	Thomas M. Giles	3800	6.65
	James C. Murdock	3450	6.00
	Orson Hicken	4100	7.15